

Douglasia

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Quarterly Journal of the
WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

To promote the appreciation and conservation of
Washington's native plants and their habitats through
study, education, and advocacy.



Special Issue in Celebration of the Washington Native Plant Society's 40th Anniversary

About This Issue

Whether to bring *Douglasia* into color has been a recurring topic at WNPS editorial board meetings for several years. The Washington Native Plant Society's 40th anniversary seemed like a compelling reason to make the switch. Special thanks go to Editorial Board Chair Kathy Murray for spearheading this initiative. Of course we think the change is great, but we are interested in hearing member feedback.

This issue celebrates the people, activities, aspirations, and accomplishments of WNPS since its humble beginnings in 1976. I'm quite sure that none of the original cofounders envisioned an organization that would go on to attract an annual membership of over 1,600 members from across the state. Nor could they have foreseen an organization that would sponsor thousands of hikes engaging even more thousands of enthusiasts and kindred spirits.

Looking back over the past 40 years, WNPS members have a lot to be proud of—the stories and articles in this issue demonstrate just how much can be achieved through commitment to and belief in a good cause. I'm struck by the level of volunteer commitment required to make possible all of the successes detailed in this issue, and I'm grateful to past and current staff who have corralled the passions of so many and steered those energies in the same direction. Collectively these efforts have created a community that enjoys, studies, and protects Washington's native plants—what a great idea. Happy 40th anniversary WNPS, and here's to many more!

David Giblin

University of Washington Herbarium, Burke Museum

Editor's note: David Giblin coordinated the content for this special issue of *Douglasia*.

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Information for Contributors

Members and others are invited to submit material for publication in *Douglasia*. Articles, book reviews, poetry, photography, or illustrations are welcome. All materials submitted should relate to the study of Washington's native plants. Acceptance will be based on space and appropriateness, and materials are subject to copyediting (substantive editing with author's permission). Contributors are reminded that the *Douglasia* audience ranges from the professional botanist to the interested enthusiast. For more information about how to contribute, see: http://www.wnps.org/publications/douglasia/douglasia_contributors.html.

Email submissions to Douglasia@wnps.org.

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Douglasia is a primary and tangible benefit to WNPS members. Because of the educational nature of the articles, advertisers can expect permanent shelf life of the issues distributed.

Front Cover: Sweat bee on Henderson's checkermallow (*Sidalcea hendersonii*). Photo by Natasha S. Johnson.

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Correction: In the Spring 2016 list of donor recognition for 2015 contributions, correction is warranted. Please acknowledge in the Best Friends category: James Duemmel
Sharon Baker and Richard Droker

President's Message: The View from Here

Membership's Greatest Benefit

Clay Antieau

Dear Fellow WNPS Members,

This issue of *Douglasia* celebrates the important 40th anniversary milestone in the history of the WNPS. As you'll read in these pages, the society's broad and varied accomplishments are evidence of the significant impact we've had over these years. These contributions have supported the enjoyment and conservation of many native plants and their habitats, touching the lives of countless people in the process.

On February 20, 2016, your WNPS State Board of Directors met to discuss strategic issues facing this organization. In preparation for that meeting, I reflected on the strengths and weaknesses of our society and the opportunities and challenges ahead. I also thought about the role that WNPS has played in my own life over the course of 34 years.

I joined the society in 1982 as one of the first recently arrived graduate students at the Center for Urban Horticulture at the University of Washington, Seattle. My academic advisor was Joe Witt, who was the curator of plants at the Washington Park Arboretum from 1952 to 1983. Joe was a remarkable plantsman with an encyclopedic knowledge of plants, both native and nonnative. I had hooked up with Joe for his help in developing my master's thesis, which endeavored to focus on oceanspray (*Holodiscus discolor*)—one of the Pacific Northwest's most unique native shrubs.

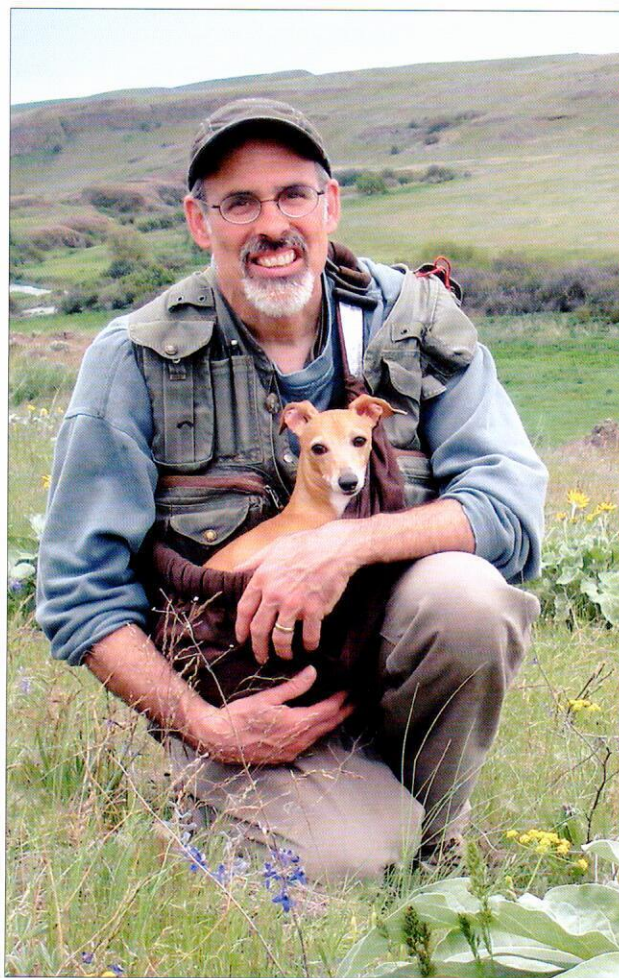
Because my proposed research required travel, Joe suggested I apply to WNPS for a research grant. If I recall correctly, Joe was a director on the board of the Central Puget Sound Chapter of WNPS at the time. I do remember that he spoke highly of the organization as the state's main advocate for Washington's native plants. Coming from Indiana—where native plants and their habitats were definitely not on the radar—I was intrigued even by the concept of such an organization.

Joe urged me to join the society and also reviewed and sponsored my application for the grant. The application was successful, and I was soon making collections of *H. discolor* from remote corners of the Pacific Northwest. What a remarkable way to become familiar with the area's diverse geography and communities, its remarkable natural heritage, and the many people who live and work with, and appreciate, native plants!

Joe passed away in 1983 before I completed my research, but our discussions about native plants and WNPS marked the beginning of what has been for me a long and rewarding professional and personal journey. Along the way, starting with Joe, I've crossed paths with many people passionate about native plants—members of WNPS and others—all the while laughing, learning, teaching, and enjoying one another's company.

It's those many relationships with folks who share the same interest and passion in our native flora that have enriched my life the most during my association with WNPS. I'm certain that's been the case for many of our members. And I'm confident this will continue to be the greatest benefit that WNPS offers through our next 40 years of public service.

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Clay and his dog, Kona, at the channeled scablands of Escure Ranch, Whitman County, Washington. PHOTO: NAOMI CHECHOWITZ

Botany and the Beginner's Mind

by Joe Arnett, South Sound Chapter

Every now and then, if we are lucky, we encounter a new field of interest that draws us in and discover a whole new world opening to us. To step out of our accustomed patterns and walk through the steps of learning a new discipline seems to wake us up—the world becomes fresh and full of possibilities. There may be a whole new vocabulary to learn (an understatement for botany!) and a whole new cast of characters (with a state flora of nearly 3,700 taxa, that's an understatement too!).

For me, walking into the North Cascades for the first time was like that; it was also a lot like falling in love. I lived on Lummi Island for a year looking across the water at Mount Baker and the Twin Sisters. I became infatuated with the mountains and the geology and flora of the place and couldn't stay away. Whenever I could get away from work I was on a trail somewhere, basking in being out in nature. I soon began the lifelong discipline of learning the names of plants. I still remember looking into tiny white flowers on an exposed slope of Table Mountain by Mount Baker and learning my first scientific name for a plant: *Saxifraga tolmiei* (now *Micranthes*), alpine saxifrage.

Sometimes a new activity also connects you to other people who share your fascination, and a wave of common interest carries the group beyond what an individual might experience. Looking back I realize how central my association with WNPS was to my development as a botanist. When I got serious about learning about wild plants, I soon met a community of people who shared this interest.

In the summer after I discovered the North Cascades, I took a class called Alpine Environment and Vegetation taught by Ron Taylor, who was then a botany professor at Western Washington University. We went to several of the most diverse and beautiful high-elevation parts of the state. Chowder Ridge, now named the Ronald J. Taylor Research Natural Area, was one of them. It is a fitting name for that exceptional place and also a fitting tribute to someone who mentored so many fledgling botanists and who was a founding member of the society. I also met Marie Hitchman in that class, a decades-long member and friend and strong advocate for conservation. After the class I went on my first WNPS field trip, a backpacking trip to Schrieber's Meadow. In the new company of fellow botanists surrounded by the glory of Mount Baker and those rich subalpine meadows, I was

hooked. That November I started formal training in botany with Dr. Taylor.

Hiking to Schrieber's Meadow was the first of countless other forays with WNPS over the past decades. Thinking about the flora of Washington and the society reminds me of all the wild and beautiful places this association has led to. WNPS study weekends were significant events in the early phase of exploring the natural areas of Washington; the first one I went to was to sagebrush country around Ellensburg. Climbing the trail up to the rim of Yakima River Canyon, blue with the blush of lupines, was like walking into a new world. And other new places followed: the Columbia River Gorge, the Blue Mountains, the Wenatchee Mountains, the San Juan Islands, the glacial outwash prairies south of Olympia. These places are the natural jewels of Washington, and my first visits to those places were often on WNPS field trips.

For some of us, botany becomes a profession, and WNPS supported me in that too. My first paid botanical work was a WNPS-funded floristic inventory with Ed Alverson on Sawtooth Ridge, along the east side of Lake Chelan. That study was the first of dozens of trips to that place for botanical contracts, graduate research, botanical backpacking seminars with the North Cascades Institute, and just plain enjoyment.

More recently, the 2014 WNPS Study Weekend to the Olympic Mountains brought back those early feelings of exploring new mountains, entering into spectacular new scenery, and encountering species I've never seen before. Under the capable leadership of Janis Burger, I had my first glimpses of some of the Olympic endemics: Flett's violet (*Viola flettii*), Olympic Mountain milk-vetch (*Astragalus cottonii*), and Piper's harebell (*Campanula piperi*). The next day we went up the sun-swept and windswept Grand Ridge. We knelt to examine field locoweed (*Oxtropis campestris*) and then paged through Hitchcock and Cronquist, asking ourselves: what's the difference between *Oxtropis* and *Astragalus*? Not everyone has the interest or patience to search for an answer to a question like that, but we found it and had the pleasure of learning something new. I remember Grand Ridge leading off to higher ground, through a low garden in full flower. The next time I visit, I plan to take my sleeping bag and just keep on going.

Things have come full circle. I returned to Table Mountain last summer, during the WNPS Study Weekend, on a field trip led by Jim Duemmel. The saxifrages are still there, though the names have been revised. The place is still astounding, the plants are still beautiful, and the people still share this common interest and carry me along.

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Forty Years of WNPS Conservation

by Becky Chaney, WNPS Conservation Committee Chair

Conservation advocacy has been integral to WNPS's 40-year existence. In 1976 the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) was just three years old, and the methods for its implementation were still in question. Our WNPS founders understood that in order to conserve native plant biodiversity, Washington citizens needed to consider species as well as their habitats. They recognized the importance of education, publicity, persuasion, and even legal action to successful conservation advocacy. The objectives of WNPS, listed in the first *Douglasia*, and the WNPS Mission Statement provide the foundation for pursuing conservation advocacy. These objectives include taking action to save endangered natural areas and providing expert testimony on land-use planning.

Conservation requires an understanding of what to preserve and what may be lost. The WNPS plant lists, over 740 of them now, provide justification for protection. These lists have figured prominently in the 1981 establishment of the Washington Natural Heritage Program and in the designation of new Research Natural Areas. WNPS members participate in citizen-science efforts to monitor the spread of invasive species into wilderness lands. In 2014–15 the Conservation Committee led WNPS efforts to assemble a species list for the 2,000+ acres threatened by the proposed expansion of Bumping Lake Reservoir. WNPS's ongoing effort to develop plant identification expertise through field trips, workshops, and study weekends is crucial for successful native plant conservation.

During the 1980s, WNPS tracked and educated members on conservation issues. In 1986, 10 years after the start of WNPS, members were urged to take a stand on 10 different legislative proposals that ranged in scope from tropical

rainforest protection, to off-road vehicle use in wilderness areas, to the federal ESA and a Washington State ESA. In 1996 WNPS developed conservation strategies for several rare species of the Okanogan National Forest using a US Forest Service cost-share grant.

At the end of the millennium, the society's conservation efforts were focused on two priority ecosystems along with the control of invasive species. By 2006 these efforts resulted in increased awareness and understanding on local, national, and international levels, and protection of the Columbia Basin shrub-steppe and Garry oak ecosystems. Continuing work culminated in the WNPS Grazing of Domestic Livestock on Public Lands Policy (2008) (www.wnps.org/about_wnps/administration/policies/grazing_policy.htm). Meanwhile, creation of the WNPS Ivy Out program galvanized interest in urban forestry and stewardship.

Today, concurrent with the increasing awareness of climate change, the interconnectedness of environmental systems and biodiversity is increasingly recognized. The WNPS Conservation Statement (2013) (www.wnps.org/conservation/documents/11-12-2013WNPSConservationStatement.pdf) affirms the necessity of a holistic approach to conservation advocacy. Testing the legal waters, WNPS filed a friend-of-the-court brief with the Western Washington Growth Management Hearings Board in support of an appeal of Island County's update of its critical area regulations. In 2015 that appeal was resolved, favoring the WNPS assertion that the Washington Growth Management Act of 1990 protects threatened plants and their habitats. As understood by the WNPS founders, habitats AND species must be protected for conservation efforts to succeed.

Up next: Every year WNPS funds conservation grants for worthy projects. Look in the fall 2016 issue to learn more about this additional important WNPS conservation program.

Becky can be reached via email at becky@chaney.org. She is always happy to hear your conservation interests and concerns.

Becky Chaney

Botany and the Beginner's Mind (continued from previous page)

There is something we gain in starting something new and seeing a whole new world open up. And what a spectacular world it is! For me, becoming part of WNPS was part of that experience. The society became that meeting place of people with a strong common interest in the flora. Not everyone wants to spend several hours on the first half mile of a trail drilling down into Hitchcock and Cronquist, struggling through the exercises in logic and terminology that make up

an identification key.

These days I live in Olympia and look out across the water at the Olympic Mountains. As another spring and summer approach, I feel that familiar pull of wanting to try something new, explore a new range of mountains, and learn a new assemblage of plants. And share these experiences with others along the trail.

Becky Chaney

Thirty-Five Years of WNPS Study Weekends

by Catherine Hovanic, South Sound Chapter

While most WNPS activities, field trips, and educational opportunities are open to all, one of the society's most popular events—the annual WNPS Study Weekend—is open to members only. This event includes two full days of wildflower hikes and two evening presentations on the regional ecology and flora of the event's location. WNPS has offered these study weekends since 1979, with only one cancellation in 1980.

Scheduled to be held that year at the Cispus Environmental Learning Center in the shadow of Mount St. Helens, the cataclysmic volcanic activity cancelled the event.

Study weekends, which offer members an opportunity to study the regional diversity of Washington's flora, provide one of the most important learning activities of the year for WNPS. Past activities have included plant identification workshops, nature journaling, botanical painting, photography, and field trips. These activities cover a range of botanical study, including forest ecology, habitat restoration, native plant nurseries, ethnobotany, paleobotany, regional wildflowers, lichens, ferns, mosses, and rare and endemic species.

Since 1979, there have been 34 study weekends. This year's

WNPS STUDY WEEKENDS

1979	June 1–3	Cispus Environmental Learning Center, near Randle	Lewis County
1980	July 11–13	Cispus Environmental Learning Center	Cancelled due to Mount St. Helens eruption
1982	May 14–15	Arid Lands Ecology Reserve, Richland	Benton County
1983	May 13–15	Central Washington University, Ellensburg	Kittitas County
1984	May 18–20	Cispus Environmental Learning Center	Lewis County
1986	May 9–11	Eastern Washington University, Cheney	Spokane County
1987	May 8–10	Camp Orkila, YMCA Camp, Orcas Island	San Juan County
1988	June 3–5	Camp Wooten Environmental Learning Center, near Dayton	Columbia County
1989	May 19–21	Brooks Memorial Environment Learning Center, Satus Pass	Klickitat County
1990	July 13–15	Camp Ramblewood Environmental Learning Center, Sequim Bay	Clallam County
1991	July 12–14	Ocean Park Methodist Camp, near Long Beach	Pacific County
1992	June 26–28	Cispus Environmental Learning Center	Lewis County
1993	July 9–11	Camp Prince's Pine, Lake Thomas, near Colville	Stevens County
1994	May 6–8	Camp Arrowhead, Girl Scout Camp, Columbia Gorge	Skamania County
1995	May 5–7	Lutherwood Camp, Lake Samish, near Bellingham	Whatcom County
1996	May 3–5	Lazy F Camp & Retreat Center, near Ellensburg	Kittitas County
1997	May 9–11	Lake Wenatchee, YMCA Camp	Chelan County
1998	May 15–17	Black Lake Bible Camp, Olympia	Thurston County
1999	June 4–6	Winthrop, Methow Valley	Okanogan County
2000	May 12–14	Camp Brotherhood, near Mt. Vernon	Skagit County
2001	July 20–22	Hyak Lodge, Snoqualmie Pass	King/Kittitas County
2002	May 10–12	Camp Delaney, Sun Lakes State Park	Grant County
2003	May 16–18	Washington State University Tri-Cities Campus	Benton County
2004	July 16–18	Olympic Park Institute Conference/Retreat Center	Clallam County
2005	May 13–15	Park Center, White Salmon, Columbia River Gorge	Klickitat County
2006	June 23–25	Chewelah Learning Center	Stevens County
2007	July 20–22	Mount Baker, White Salmon Day Lodge	Whatcom County
2008	May 2–4	Black Lake Bible Camp, Olympia	Thurston County
2009	June 5–7	Wenatchee Valley, Chelan County Fairgrounds	Chelan County
2010	May 21–23	Camp Waskowitz, North Bend	King County
2011	June 10–12	The Barn, Winthrop	Okanogan County
2012	June 29–July 1	Whitman College, Walla Walla	Walla Walla County
2013	June 28–30	Cispus Environmental Learning Center	Lewis County
2014	July 25–27	Olympic National Park Institute	Clallam County
2015	Aug 14–16	Heather Meadows Ski Lodge, Mount Baker	Whatcom County



Leaning in for a better look along the Lillian Ridge Trail, Olympic National Park, 2004. PHOTO: BILL BROOKRESON

will make 35 and will be hosted in June by the Wenatchee Valley Chapter in Chelan County. Counting this year's study weekend, WNPS has offered 17 study weekends in eastern Washington and 18 in western Washington.

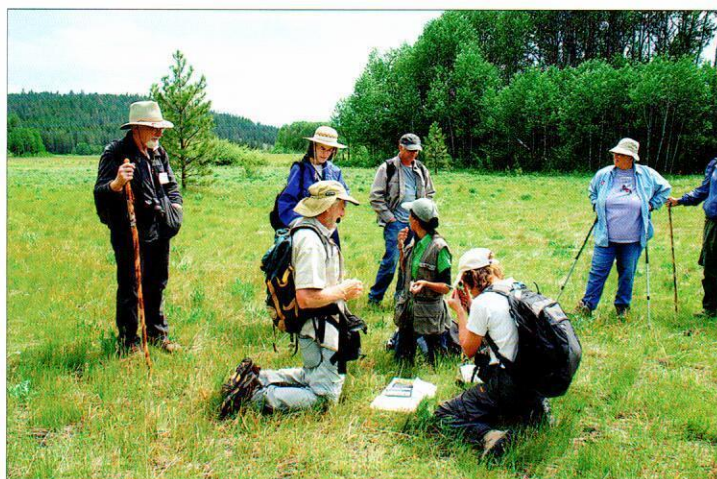
Fine weather and outstanding organization, botanical study, and comradery characterize most study weekends. Planning and organizing these events is not an easy task though, and nature is not always predictable. Volcanic activity at Mount St. Helens, a solid weekend of rain, or unusually cold or hot

STUDY WEEKEND AT CISPUS: JUNE 1-3, 1979

A study weekend is a new venture for WNPS members. Its purpose is to provide our members with a more sustained outdoor-indoor experience with the Washington flora. The program will include walks to discover the local flora and its ecological contexts, identification of special plant groups (lichens, grasses, composites, etc.) and evening sessions on a variety of topics.

The Field and Study Weekend will be held at the Cispus Environmental Center near Randle, Washington. Meals for Saturday through Sunday noon and indoor accommodations for two nights (Friday and Saturday) will cost only \$15.00 per person. Check-in and registration at Cispus will begin Friday evening at 6:00 pm; no meal the first night. The Friday evening program will begin at 8:00 pm. The event will be limited to 60 persons, so preregister soon; deadline May 20.

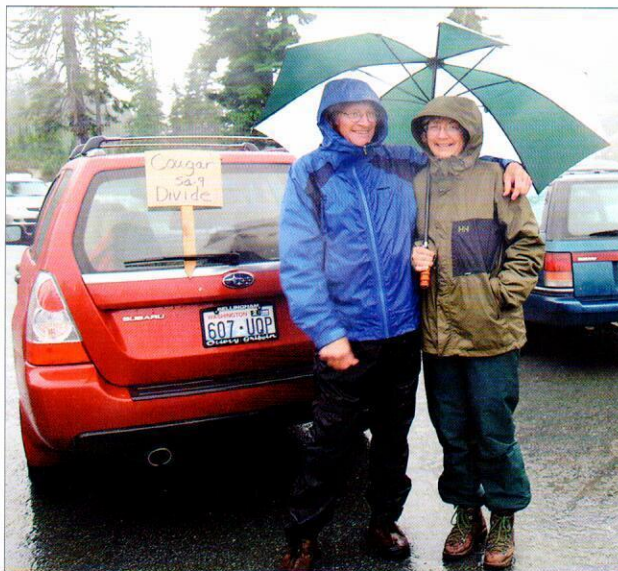
[From the spring 1979 issue of *Douglasia*.]



Field Identification with all the tools and all the heads. Camas Meadows, Wenatchee, 2009. PHOTO: CATHERINE HOVANIC



Access to the pumice plains with John Bishop. Mount St. Helens, 2013. PHOTO: CATHERINE HOVANIC



True northwesterners, Walt Lockwood and Wendy McClure aren't going to let a little rain bother them. White Salmon Day Lodge parking lot, Mount Baker, 2007. PHOTO: CATHERINE HOVANIC

years challenge the chapter volunteers, who spend months coordinating the study weekend. Imagine trying to predict snow melt on high-elevation trails six months or more in advance. Local knowledge, however, makes a big difference in mitigating the vagaries of weather and making last minute field trip schedule changes when needed.

The success of the study weekends is due to the tremendous hard work of the sponsoring chapter and its members, who provide the planning, logistics, activities, and field trip leadership. Enough can never be said about all the WNPS volunteers who work to make these events successful. Finding a venue and caterer for over 100 guests, calculating costs,



Dog Mountain field trip led by Fayla Schwartz. Columbia River Gorge, 2005. PHOTO: UNKNOWN



Dinnertime comradery at the Chewelah Learning Center, 2006. PHOTO: BILL BROOKRESON

1979 WNPS First Annual Study Weekend Participants

Norma Anderson
 Bob and Becky Benton
 John Broussard
 Maxine Bunch
 Margaret and Norris Cone
 Nancy and Willy Cunha
 Martha J. Cushman
 Ken Davis
 Ted Doan
 Jim Fay
 Sharon Gordon
 Harry and Maxine Hagen
 Norman and Esther Harvey
 Martin E. Hicks
 Karen Hinman*
 Leon Hoppis
 Art* and Maureen Kruckeberg
 Margaret* and Joe Miller*
 Mae Anne Morey*
 David and Lynn Neill
 Kelly Pomeroy
 Jim* and Dottie Riley
 Leonard Steiner

*WNPS Honorary Fellow

preparing registration materials, registering guests, organizing 24 or more field trips, preparing field trip descriptions, and seeking knowledgeable trip leaders and speakers are daunting tasks. Every year, one of the chapters rises to the occasion to make this possible for WNPS members.

Study weekends provide incredible opportunities for botanical study throughout Washington. Many of the field trips provide unique access to areas not generally open to the public. Professional botanists have invited members to some of the state's outstanding natural areas, while others with local knowledge have shared some of their favorite wildflower haunts we might otherwise never have visited.

There are few things more enjoyable to me than joining other like-minded plant devotees for a weekend full of these educational opportunities. If only I could say that I have attended all 34 weekends, how many more outstanding memories I would have. I look forward to seeing many of you in Leavenworth this June.

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Twenty Years of Botany Washington

by David Giblin, University of Washington
Herbarium, Burke Museum

Dr. Art Kruckeberg, professor emeritus of botany at the University of Washington, was one of the original cofounders of WNPS and started Botany Washington in the mid-1990s. Art was taken by—and perhaps envious of—the annual Botany BC gathering held by his British Columbia colleagues to the north. That event brings together professional and amateur botanists from throughout the far-flung reaches of the large province for a weekend of talks, walks, and socializing at a selected site. Though I've never been, I've heard that it's always an enlightening and fun weekend.

Art led the Botany WA events for the several years leading up to his retirement, after which WNPS Fellows Fred and Ann Weinmann took over leadership and organizational responsibilities. It ultimately became integrated into WNPS's annual program offerings and had a format similar to the WNPS Study Weekend: evening presentations and wildflower hikes to destinations around a selected location. I've heard nothing but good things about these events.

In 2011 then WNPS Executive Director Catherine Hovanic asked me whether the herbarium would be interested in partnering with her to, as she put it, “put the botany back in Botany WA.” I gladly accepted the invitation, and since 2012 the format of Botany WA has offered attendees a mix of field trips to select from: general wildflower walks, keying plants in the field with Hitchcock and Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific*

Northwest, and taxonomic sessions focusing on particularly troublesome families (for example, grasses and borages) or genera (for example, *Castilleja*, *Eriogonum*, and *Boechea*). This diverse offering has expanded the breadth of botanical background among attendees, who range from wildflower enthusiasts to federal agency botanists to professional botanical consultants.

Evening talks remain an important part of the mix as well, with an academic researcher giving at least one of the presentations. The list of presenters and topics covered is impressive:

- UW Herbarium Curator Dr. Richard Olmstead - molecular systematics role in revising plant family relationships
- Dr. Mare Nazaire - bluebells (*Mertensia*) systematics
- Dr. Jim Reveal - buckwheat (*Eriogonum*) systematics
- Dr. Robin O'Quinn - miner's lettuce (*Claytonia*) systematics
- Dr. Eric DeChaine - evolution and biogeography of arctic and alpine tundra flora

Non-academic presenters have impressed as well:

- Mark Egger - Indian paintbrush (*Castilleja*)
- Curtis Bjork - vernal pool flora of Washington
- Ben Legler - revision of *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*
- George Wooten - fire ecology of Methow Valley

I haven't spoken with Art about his thoughts on where Botany WA is today, but I'm confident that he'd be proud that the event continues to bring together 50 to 60 people each year with diverse botanical interests. I think he'd also be pleased to know that every year some of those attendees come down from British Columbia.

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Participants in the 2013 WNPS Botany Washington held at Sun Lakes State Park in central Washington. PHOTO: ROB SMITH

WNPS Education Committee: Spreading Awareness of Native Plants Statewide

by Fayla Schwartz, Committee Chair

The WNPS Education Committee was established November 5, 1983. The WNPS State Board of Directors directed it to delineate goals and guidelines for applicants proposing educational projects and provided the committee with an annual budget. In 1997 the Education Committee was formalized as one of the Standing Committees named in the WNPS bylaws.

Ken Swedberg (Eastern Washington University) was the first chairperson. Rosemary Richardson (Bellevue College) also chaired the committee for a number of years, and I became the chairperson in 1997.

The Education Committee's scope is described on the WNPS website: "The Education Committee encourages educators throughout our state to develop projects about native plants and plant habitats for their classes. Teachers who have been granted awards can serve as mentors for other teachers hoping to do similar projects in their school districts. Education grants are also available for projects linked to gardens, museums, parks and other public displays of or about native plants."

Committee membership varies from four to six individuals, preferably representing different areas of the state. Joining me on the committee are Diane Doss (Olympia), Mary Kiesau (Twisp and Bellingham), Mike Marsh (Seattle), and Mark Turner (Bellingham).

Guidelines for submitting proposals, which the committee reviews twice annually, are posted on the WNPS website. Deadlines for submission are May 15 and November 15 each year. Each group of proposals is evaluated by all committee members and discussed via email. Sometimes we are happy to grant a proposal as it is submitted, sometimes we ask the applicant for further information before granting, and sometimes we agree that the proposal is not worthy of WNPS funding. Unfortunately, sometimes we also want to fund more proposals than we have money to spend, and some hard decisions need to be made. With an annual budget of \$2,000, we currently fund about four projects a year, ranging from \$300 to \$1,000 each.

Through Education Committee grants, WNPS reaches all corners of the state. The society name can be seen on signs in native plant gardens in schools, museums, and other public

facilities. We have funded brochures about gardening with native plants, flower identification displays at US Forest Service interpretive stations, websites associated with public universities and herbaria, teaching kits that can be borrowed and used with school groups, and a number of other types of projects. These grants have also been awarded to WNPS chapters to help with educational programs and public gardens.

Here are a few examples of projects that WNPS has funded through education grants in the last 10 years. The next project could be yours! For more information, see the WNPS website or contact me directly: fschwartz@everettcc.edu.

WNPS chapters

- Salal Chapter, Mount Vernon: Signage for the chapter-run native plant display garden (2013).
- Olympic Chapter, Port Townsend: Signage for Port Townsend State Park Mural project (2012).
- Koma Kulshan Chapter, Bellingham: Maritime Heritage Park Teaching Trail (2010).

Schools

- Icicle River Middle School, Peshastin: Native plant garden (2013).
- New Start High School, Burien: Salmon Creek native plant nursery project (2011).
- Skyview Junior High School, Bothell: Removal of invasives at Skyview Outdoor Environmental Learning Center (2006).
- Oasis School, Richland: Native plant restoration project (2006).

Public agencies

- Okanagan-Wenatchee National Forest, Tonasket Ranger District: "Garden-wise" native plant garden on the Tonasket Ranger District grounds (2012).
- Underwood Conservation District, White Salmon: Native plants and pollinator cultivation workshops in the Columbia Gorge (2011).
- Methow Valley Interpretive Center, Twisp: Interpretive signs for a native garden (2014).
- Friends of Martha Washington Park, Seattle: Demonstration Garry oak meadow garden (2013).
- Eagle Scout project, Olympia: Native plant signs for Capitol Lake Interpretive Center (2009).

Gardens

- Kul Kah Han Native Plant Garden, Port Townsend: Kiosk and brochures (2014).
- Ohme Gardens, Wenatchee: Native plant garden (2010).

Private agencies and native plant proponents

- The Mountaineers, Seattle: Garden of Indigenous Inspiration – native plant garden (2011).
- Susan Ballinger, Wenatchee: Several projects, including a DVD, brochures, and web pages about wildflowers of the Wenatchee area (2008, 2009).
- Whidbey Island Native Plant Stewards: Native Plant Stewards' Informational Brochure (2008).
- Quinault Indian Nation, Taholah: Native plant garden (2008).
- University of Washington Herbarium, Seattle: Revitalizing the Washington Flora project (2007).



WNPS Research and Inventory Committee: 40 Years of Support for Native Plant Study

by Pam Camp, Committee Chair

We must know and understand what we have if we want to protect our native ecosystems. For nearly 40 years, the Washington Native Plant Society has been encouraging and financially supporting plant inventories and the research of graduate students and scientists who further the understanding of native plants and their habitats.

The Research and Inventory Committee was established in 1978 and started with a \$1,000 budget. The first awards focused on the inventories of rare and endangered plants, a timely and important use of our limited funds. At that time, little was known about rare plants in our state. After the passage of the Endangered Species Act in 1973, the Smithsonian Institution produced the first rare plant lists from herbarium records. In those first years, it wasn't unusual for 30 percent of the list to be revised with additions or deletions. Early WNPS-funded field studies contributed greatly to this effort.

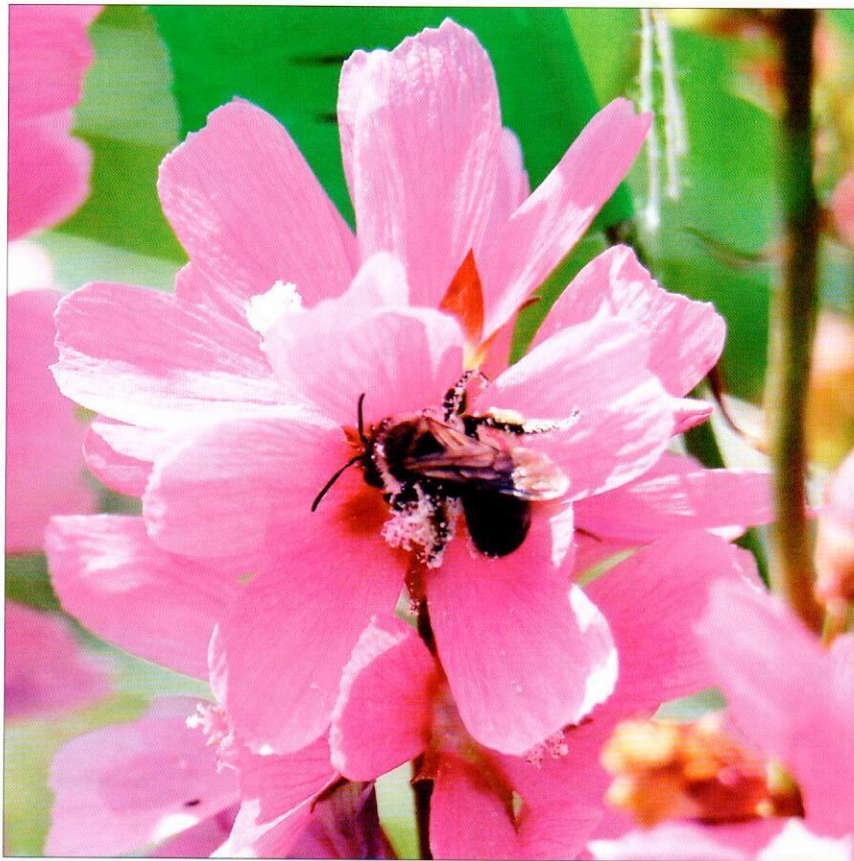
The society also funded surveys of lesser-known places. Information about these regions helped to fill the gaps in our knowledge of regional flora, contributed to the understanding of the distribution of rare and endemic flora, and added some plant species previously unknown to the state. Dr. Ron Taylor (deceased), who was a member of the Koma Kulshan Chapter in Bellingham and also on the faculty of Western Washington State University, administered the WNPS research funds for about 20 years.

The projects funded during this period are included—either as summaries or as full reports—in the society's Occasional Paper No. 6 published in 1998 and titled "Vegetation Studies Funded by the Washington Native Plant Society." This paper has 22 articles, including a floristic study of the Pasayten Wilderness, Washington Park in Anacortes, the wetlands of Gibbs Lake, Dungeness

Spit, Thunder Creek in the North Cascades, and Trout Lake in Klickitat County. Some surveys supported management planning of sensitive areas such as the survey of Washington Park and the Gibbs Lake wetland survey in Jefferson County.

While WNPS still funds rare plant studies and general inventories, the focus has shifted over the last 20 years as research needs have changed. Technological advances in genetics and computer technology, and zoning and land use changes, as well as increasing population pressures have also contributed to changes in research needs. Funding for WNPS grants has increased from the initial \$1,000 to \$2,500–\$6,000 today, depending on the annual budget and priorities. In 2004 the WNPS State Board of Directors established three priority areas of study: Garry oak habitat, shrub-steppe habitat, and invasive species. These areas are given priority consideration for funding but not to the exclusion of other valuable research areas.

Most study results are published in *Douglasia* to educate and inform WNPS members about ongoing research that their contributions and dues support and to provide an archive of these results. The following projects highlight some of the research that WNPS has funded.



Sweat bee on Henderson's checkermallow (*Sidalcea hendersonii*). PHOTO: NATASHA S. JOHNSON

- The eruption of Mount St. Helen provided opportunities to study the recolonization of plants. WNPS funded baseline flora studies in the blast zone and vegetation succession for wetlands. More recently, the society has provided funding for studies focused on the impact of climate change on Mount Rainier's native flora.
- Studies were conducted that address the effects of increasing population pressure and land use, including a long-term monitoring study of the shrub-steppe and the effects of development and land use on the floral and lichen diversity in Garry oak (*Quercus garryana*) communities, two of Washington's more endangered ecosystems. To address the society's invasive species priority, the committee funded studies on the effects of invasive species in native plant communities as well as studies on specific invasive species such as butterfly bush (*Buddleja*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus bifrons*), and evergreen blackberry (*R. laciniatus*). Land restoration with native plants is an ever-increasing need, and WNPS funds support this research as well.
- With the remarkable advances in genetic techniques, WNPS has supported studies to measure genetic diversity in the rare obscure buttercup (*Ranunculus tritermatus*) in the Klickitat area and evolutionary studies in native onions (*Allium* spp.), the Polemoniums, and springbeauty (*Claytonia* spp.). These evolutionary studies help to clarify the relationships between related species and sometimes lead to name changes.
- WNPS has supported development of online resources such as the digitalization of herbarium records and the photo library at the University of Washington's Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture. Many of these studies have contributed valuable information that will be incorporated in the revised Hitchcock and Cronquist *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*, for which WNPS also provided financial support.

The WNPS is fortunate to have talented, experienced, and generous people willing to serve on the Inventory and Research Committee. Joining me on the committee are Dr. Elizabeth Binney, Dr. Peter Dunwiddie, Terry Lillybridge, Lou Messmer (WNPS Fellow), Dr. Richard Olmstead, and Dr. Sarah Reichard. Collectively, members have academic, lab, and field expertise in plant taxonomy and systematics; invasive species biology; pollination biology; wetland, forest, and arid-land ecology; population and community ecology; genetics; climate change; modeling; and restoration.



WNPS Chapter Field Trips: Anyone for Botanizing?

by Fred Weinmann, Olympic Peninsula Chapter Cochair

"It is not what you look at, but what you see." – H. D. Thoreau

Some time ago in the pages of *Douglasia*, I referred to the chapters of the Washington Native Plant Society as its energy centers. I equated them to the mitochondria of living cells where the production of adenosine triphosphate, the universal energy source for all life, generates all the energy necessary to power life. Chapter activities are like this universal energy source, propelling our society's field trips.

Field trips, plant walks, botany hikes, botany walks, plant forays, and other names are ascribed to the practice of field botany (or botanizing), whether such an outing is a professional collecting foray or a recreational flower walk. In this article, I refer specifically to those walks and hikes, particularly WNPS-sponsored walks, taken primarily as recreational pursuits by plant enthusiasts.

Spanning its 40-year history, WNPS members have sponsored several thousand botany field trips. Common to them all is the participants' interest in the plants that grow in a particular area, their names, how they got their names, and how the plants in one area relate to the plants in other areas of the state. On these trips there is always the anticipation of seeing something new—new to the participants or newly discovered for the area.

The essence of WNPS is best manifested during these trips, because this is where we exert much of our mental and physical energies as well as receive payback for our work maintaining WNPS. Field trips provide a fine opportunity for taking the time necessary as a group to examine and appreciate the smallest and least imposing of plants, such as Brazilian watermeal (*Wolffia brasiliensis*), as well as the rare beauty of magnificent wildflowers, such as Tweedy's lewisia (*Lewisiopsis tweedyi*). Also provided is an ongoing opportunity for amateurs and professionals to participate in collaborative as well as social botanizing, an important objective of the society actively fostered by Art Kruckeberg, one of the principal founders of WNPS.

The rewards of attending botany field trips are many, but a couple of them stand out in my mind:

We teach and we learn. On a WNPS plant walk we are all teachers and we are all students. Each person on a trip

Leading a Botany Field Trip

Leading a botanizing field trip involves many tasks: deciding on a destination, deciding where to meet for transport to the trailhead, organizing carpools and cost-sharing for transportation, keeping track of the signup list, considering safety precautions, and so on. There are also the administrative details to tend to, such as having all participants sign the release form and returning a copy of the form to the state office at the end of the hike. These are all important tasks. A guide for field trip leaders can be found on the WNPS website (www.wnps.org/).

From my perspective, there are two particularly important aspects to leading a botanizing experience:

Know your route.

I have no doubt that the most important responsibility of a field trip leader is to know the route for the planned hike or walk. Certainly there may be serendipitous diversions, but they should be to well-known destinations of well-known distances. If the planned route is not known from previous experience, either a careful studying of a

map or better yet a reconnaissance to the site is required. Familiarity with the hiking route relieves any leader anxiety and inspires confidence in participants.

Botany skills aren't necessary, but enthusiasm is.

Being an expert botanist or knowing the names of all the plants encountered on the trip are not particularly important. The most important part of the trip is the collaborative learning experience where everybody contributes what they know. Having a plant list is helpful but not essential. It can be equally rewarding to develop one's own list for a site. The bottom line: Don't hesitate to lead a WNPS hike because you feel you don't have the requisite botanical background or skills or knowledge. If you have a favorite plant place, schedule a hike and share your enthusiasm.

So, if you're interested in Washington's plants, even if it is only a casual interest, take a walk with the WNPS. If you find a place where the plants really interest you, volunteer to lead a hike there. You will be well rewarded!

knows something: It might be an identification hint, an ethnobotanical use, or a curiosity related to life cycle or morphological variability. Together the whole becomes more than the sum of the parts; that is, the more gray cells applied the more we learn.

We connect. Many of the people I appreciate the most are those I have met on botany field trips. The camaraderie of shared experiences—learning, teaching, and collaborating—implant the fondest memories. The field approach of particular individuals sticks in my mind. For example, I can clearly see

Phelps Freeborn armed with his digging stick to check out the roots of *Lomatium* spp. on a field trip to Umtanum Ridge near Yakima, or Don Knoke, with his glasses raised, describing the difference in the pappus of species in the Asteraceae family, or Clay Antieau and his Hitchcock joke: "Does anybody have Hitchcock in their pack?" If somebody says "yes" Clay responds, "He's pretty heavy to carry, isn't he?"

There is no better, easier, or more enjoyable way to become acquainted with the plants of Washington. So let's go botanizing!

SD



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What Is It Like to Be President of WNPS? Or: "I did not expect the epaulets to be so heavy!"¹

by Sarah Gage, Puget Sound Chapter

As part of this 40th anniversary edition of *Douglasia*, I contacted past presidents of the Washington Native Plant Society and asked them a series of questions. I wasn't able to touch base with everyone, but here are responses from 9 of the 14 past presidents.

What was your favorite part of being president of WNPS?

Mark Egger: Doing something for, and speaking out about, the conservation and appreciation of native plants!

Sarah Gage: It helped people differentiate me from other botanists named Sarah in Washington: Sarah Reichard (University of Washington) and Sarah Spear Cooke (Cooke Scientific).

Laura Potash: The social aspect of it, especially the elderly people involved. At that time in my life I didn't have an opportunity to associate with many people in the World War II generation.

Joan Frazee: The prestige! (Grin). Well, that and knowing that I was contributing to the native flora of the state in a meaningful fashion.

Richard Robohm: I was proud to bear the title of president of an organization that had so many fine people in its ranks doing such good things.

Tom Johnson: Being president was a breeze. Catherine (Hovanic—longtime WNPS staff person) did all the work! She would give me tasks to do or documents to sign. The Board met only twice a year, with great agendas that Catherine put together.

Fred Weinmann: Being president was worth doing—it was a good thing to do for the good of the organization. Being a chapter chair is more fun—that's where the action is!

Dean Longrie: Working with Catherine and individuals on the board: their dedication, work ethic, and enthusiasm.

Clay Antieau: Actually, it's been a lot of work and at times a lightning rod for criticism. It's been frustrating and exhausting. It's required much patience, organization, negotiation, and

tact. However, in this role and during my time on the state board, I've been able to hone my leadership skills and have learned about the interesting machinations of non-profit management. Overall, it's been a personally and professionally rewarding experience. Certainly, it's been my honor to be trusted with such responsibility.

What was most surprising about being president?

Mark Egger: Being president! Not something I'd anticipated or prepared for, other than loving native plants.

Sarah Gage: How being an effective president calls on non-botanical skill sets; how unimportant it is to know about plants.

Joan Frazee: The workload! If taken seriously, this position has a ton of responsibility.

Fred Weinmann: How long we could talk about something without making a decision.

Dean Longrie: How much work staff and some board members put into the society. How many volunteers came forward to help.

Clay Antieau: I'm consistently puzzled by how few people are interested in or willing to assume a leadership position—especially president—or to step up to lead or manage an assignment or task. It's the perpetual, proverbial "pulling of teeth." On the flip side, I'm also amazed at those few individuals who do willingly step up and provide seasoned, effective leadership. It's my distinct pleasure to work shoulder-to-shoulder with those folks!

What was your most memorable moment at a board meeting?

Mark Egger: Learning that all those forest planning comments were really appreciated and useful to the Forest Service botanists and planners.

Sarah Gage: Reminding one board member that it's not "your" native plant society, it's "our" native plant society. And reminding a different board member that money and time are not the same—they are both important—and we need to give both.

Laura Potash: I was probably not President yet, but I remember being so impressed by the way the board followed Robert's Rules of Order. It was a pleasant contrast to many rambling unorganized meetings I had to attend at work, and it inspired me to become more involved since I don't particularly like sitting in meetings. The way the meeting was run felt like something I could handle.

Joan Frazee: Hmmmm, the day some new board members complimented me on a meeting well run. That and finally a vote in favor of hiring an administrative assistant who

¹Catherine Richardson, Q&A: Chabon Takes Chair at MacDowell, *Poets & Writers Magazine*, March/April 2011.

Presidents of the Washington Native Plant Society

Name	Term
Dr. Art Kruckeberg	1977–1983
Joe W. Miller (deceased)	1984–1985
Dr. Ron Taylor (deceased)	1986
Mark Egger	1987–1990
Lee Ellis	1991
Clay Antieau	1992–1994
Sarah Gage	1995–1996
Laura Potash	1997
Dottie Knecht	1998
Joan Frazee	1999–2001
Richard Robohm	2002
Tom Johnson	2003
Fred Weinmann	2004–2005
Dean Longrie	2006–2014
Clay Antieau	2014–present

eventually took on tons of responsibility. This was huge as before this, the society was all volunteer. The decision to pay someone was painful and huge.

Tom Johnson: WNPS strategic goals were expiring and we needed new ones. We had accomplished a number of things like getting an office, and there weren't any big conservation programs we needed to get behind (the Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area had been established; the North Cascades had been protected). We decided to focus our attention on shrub-steppe and oak-woodland habitats, and then had activities associated with those topics. I really enjoyed it. I felt like I was helping out.

Dean Longrie: The board workshop to establish our dedicated funds.

Clay Antieau: I'm currently WNPS president and am also a past president (1992–1994). The state board decided to hold a retreat on April 24–26, 1992. This was the first such retreat for the society. It was held at the beautiful Circle H Ranch in Thorp, which allowed folks to hike, ride horses, and generally relax. All told, it was a memorable, productive couple of days in a beautiful place.

What has been your most memorable moment at a study weekend?

Mark Egger: Seeing *Castilleja lutea* for the first time at Pataha Bunchgrass Research Natural Area.

Sarah Gage: The snoring? No, how about the time we saw so many *Calypso bulbosa* that they got to be ho-hum? Or the

time when 10 or so botanists stopped short, captivated by a horny toad?

Laura Potash: Ha! there are several memorable moments. When the cook didn't show up, and I cooked a complete spaghetti dinner for 60 or so people. When little 6-year-old Chester Antieau made an exasperated face when he saw we were still having an awards ceremony, and it sent me and Joan Frazee into uncontrollable giggles. When I shared a room with Sharon Rodman, and she read the graffiti from her bunk out loud, in her beautiful South African accent, "I was f...d here."

Joan Frazee: Having to be pulled out of a bog as I was stuck and sinking!

Richard Robohm: Encountering a stand of *Cypripedium montanum* in full bloom just a short walk from the conference center in Winthrop.

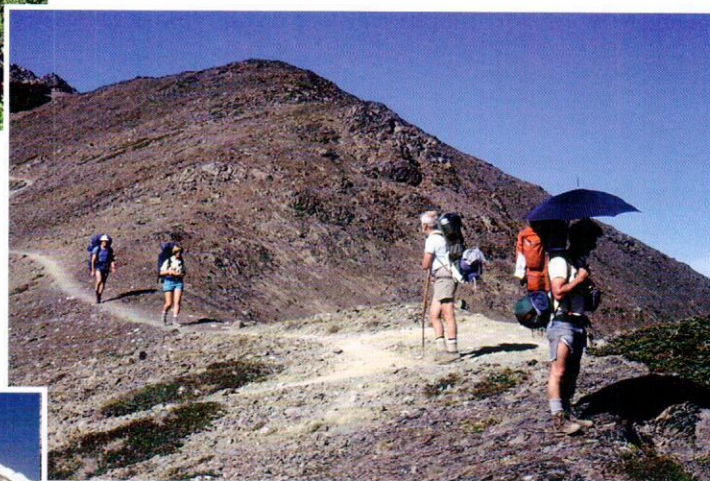
Dean Longrie: Seeing some plants in flower for the first time and watching others have this same experience.

Clay Antieau: I've been to many study weekends, but the one that stands out was my first one at Randle (1984?). It rained hard the entire time, but I believe I saw my first *Botrychium* with Jim Riley. I also presented the results of my master's research, which was funded, in part, by a WNPS research grant. I recall having a blast on another study weekend in the Columbia River Gorge, in Klickitat County. The company was great, the weather beautiful, and the plants fantastic! Then there was the study weekend at Camp Orkila on Orcas Island...

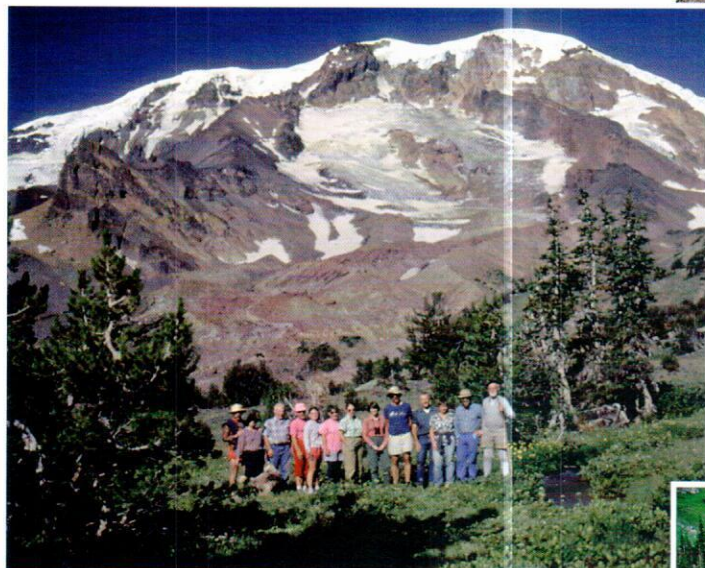


Art Kruckeberg on his way back to camp (Goat Rocks Wilderness, Snowgrass Flats). PHOTO: JIM RILEY

Annual Backpack Trips



A pause on our first trip into the Olympic National Forest. PHOTO: JIM RILEY



The group for the Mount Adams circuit in 1990. PHOTO: JIM RILEY



Reviewing our plant list at camp (Copper Creek). PHOTO: JIM RILEY

WNPS Workshops and Classes: Sharing Knowledge, Building Community

by David Giblin, University of Washington Herbarium, Burke Museum

The Washington Native Plant Society's mission is to "appreciate, conserve, and study native plants and habitats." Achieving the third goal in that statement has been a hallmark of WNPS and its members since the organization's beginning. The annual WNPS Study Weekend, Botany Washington, and chapter field trips, all covered elsewhere in this issue, have provided opportunities for thousands of native plant enthusiasts to enrich or even initiate their interest in our native flora. The often informal nature of such studies, the beautiful settings in which they take place, and the shared avocation with fellow participants have collectively made the learning fun.

Several years ago WNPS expanded its educational offerings by cosponsoring multiday classes and workshops taught by professional botanists that target professional audiences. The setting for these studies are considerably less scenic: a university biology lab with bench tops crammed with microscopes, dissecting tools, dried and fresh plant material in bottles, and technical identification manuals. Despite these less aesthetically pleasing environs, the learning has been just as fun.

Since 2010 WNPS has offered at least one such class each year. These classes have focused on the identification of the more challenging—and often overlooked—elements of the flora: grasses, sedges, rushes, bryophytes, and ferns. This year, WNPS will expand that list to include aquatic plants.

The instructors include some of the most talented teachers and experienced botanists in the Pacific Northwest: current WNPS President Clay Antieau (grasses), University of Washington Herbarium Research Associate Peter Zika (sedges, rushes, ferns, and aquatic plants), and Oregon botanists Ed Alverson (ferns) and Dr. David Wagner (bryophytes). Teaching a two- or three-day workshop requires not only a few days of advanced prep work, but also decades of studying the flora and being able to share that knowledge in an engaging way. Each of these instructors has more than met that expectation.

Students come from a broad mix of professional backgrounds and affiliations, including botanists and public land managers from the US Bureau of Land Management, US Forest Service, and National Park Service, as well as from many of



Students in the Bryophytes Workshop working on identifications in the lab. PHOTO: DAVID GIBLIN

the state agencies, including the Washington Natural Heritage Program, Department of Transportation, and Department of Ecology; botanists and wetland scientists from environmental consulting firms; and freelance botanical consultants. Many WNPS members who are nonprofessionals and simply want to expand their knowledge of the flora and strengthen their plant identification skills have participated as well.

To reinforce the knowledge gained in the classroom by peering through microscopes, typically each workshop includes time in the field. Discovery Park, Cedar River Watershed, Snoqualmie Pass, and Perry Creek Research Natural Area are among the destinations where theory has been put into practice. And many of the instructors generously spend at least one evening in the lab during the run of their workshop to provide additional time for study.

Not only do these classes further participants' understanding of the particular group under examination, but they also foster professional and personal connections. There is nothing like spending a few days in a classroom, untethered from the phone and computer, thinking and talking about a narrow group of plants with a small group of others with common interests.

This community building through education is just as important as the knowledge and understanding shared and gained. These experiences are unique for both instructors and students. WNPS has much to be proud of for promoting such opportunities, which ultimately support the other two goals of the mission statement: the appreciation and conservation of native plants.



Stewardship Celebrates 20th Year, Expands Statewide

by Gary Smith, WNPS State Stewardship Program Cochair

"The stewardship program has given me confidence in an area that I did not know I actually had great interest in, and it has helped me reconnect with volunteering. I find it very fulfilling to interact with the general public and inspire interest in native plants."

— WNPS Native Plant Steward

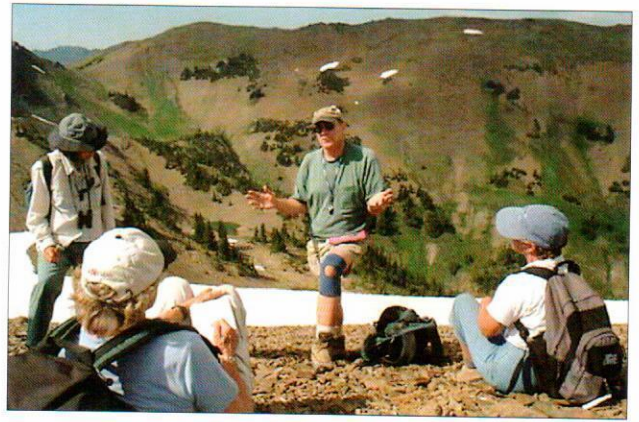
Citizens, empowered to follow their passion to preserve nature in their communities, have been the hallmark of the Washington Native Plant Society (WNPS) Native Plant Stewardship Program in the Puget Sound region for the past 20 years. In celebration of the program's 20th year, WNPS will now offer its community-based stewardship program through all of its chapters across the state.

This training program will be offered in our traditional 100-hour program format but renamed as the Master Native Plant Stewardship Program. A new reduced hour Native Plant Stewardship Program will also be offered. Both programs are designed to support urban and more rural communities. The expanded statewide program will focus on forming community partnerships to facilitate individual and group trainings that assist communities in preserving and restoring native plants and native plant habitats through community engagement in conservation, education, and advocacy projects.

According to Jim Evans, state stewardship program manager, 30-hour stewardship programs will be held for the South Sound and the Wenatchee chapters this year. The Central Puget Sound Chapter is also planning the first Master Native Plant Stewardship Program. Watch for new stewardship training announcements on the WNPS website: www.wnps.org.

Expansion of the program statewide was made possible by a generous contribution from the estate of Jane Titland. Jane was a 2002 Native Plant Steward from Bellevue, who is recognized for her volunteer work around the Bellevue and Mount Rainier areas.

In 2014 the WNPS State Board of Directors appointed a WNPS Stewardship Steering Committee to oversee the development and coordination of the statewide stewardship program. The members of this committee are Chrys Bertolotto, Becky Chaney, Rory Denovan,



Jim Evans leads a 2004 field trip. PHOTO: DON PAULSON

Jim Evans, Don Hardin, Mary Kiesau, Denise Mahnke (WNPS business manager), Wendy McClure, Fayla Schwartz, and cochairs Bill Brookreson and myself.

During the past 20 years, the Central Puget and South Sound Chapter programs have supported 24 classes—each comprising 10 weeks and 100 hours of training—which graduated 562 Native Plant Stewards. In return for their free training, these stewards have contributed over 145,000 hours in individual and team projects in schools, local neighborhoods, and community partnerships in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties. The classroom and field training includes native plant identification, restoration ecology methods, and volunteer engagement. Training is provided by dedicated volunteer professionals from academia, public agencies, and the private sector, who instill in stewards the necessary leadership skills and knowledge to become recognized assets in their communities.

The first stewardship program was established in 1996 by the Central Puget Sound Chapter and Washington State University Cooperative Extension, King County. Funding in subsequent years has come from many sources, including Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team, King County Water Quality Block Grant, USDA Forest Service, Starflower Foundation, King County WaterWorks Grant Program, Puget Sound Urban Resources Partnership, Natural Resource Stewardship Network, Seattle Foundation, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, King Conservation District, and the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Kenmore, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Redmond, Sammamish, SeaTac, and Seattle.

A special thanks to all these partners, the instructors, and WNPS members, whose continuing support has made this 20th-year celebration possible.

BS

WNPS Plant Lists: A Valuable Resource Keeps Growing

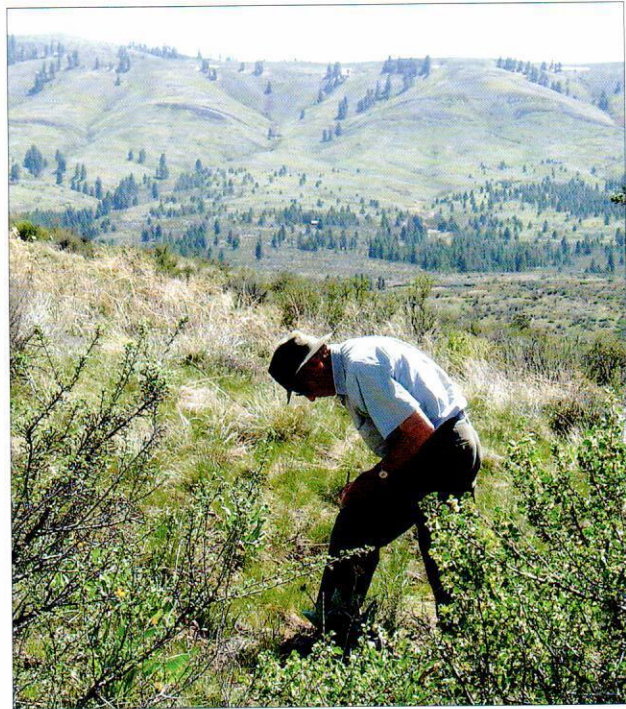
by Ellen Kuhlmann, Koma Kulshan Chapter

"I've got a few to get working on one of these days," Don Knoke told me over coffee one morning in late October following a seed collecting trip. He was referring to native plant lists sent to him from WNPS members around the state. For over 12 years, Don was the keeper of these lists. He would enter them in a database, and then export each one in document form. Then he would email them to Catherine Hovanic, then the WNPS administrator in the WNPS office, where with the help of volunteers the formatting would be standardized and uploaded to the WNPS website.

Over 740 lists were published in this fashion (www.wnps.org/plant_lists/exploring_native_plants.html). Catherine noted, "It was totally low tech, and we could not update the Latin names in any easy way, but it served its purpose. The plant lists page was visited more than all other pages on the WNPS website, proof that it was hugely popular among the membership and others."

Making lists of plants has been a popular activity during WNPS field trips since the society was founded in 1976, and it became more organized and in-depth as time went on. WNPS listmakers continued the naturalist tradition of recording and categorizing what was seen.

Making a plant list expands one's knowledge of what grows in a location, and using lists made by others gives a head start

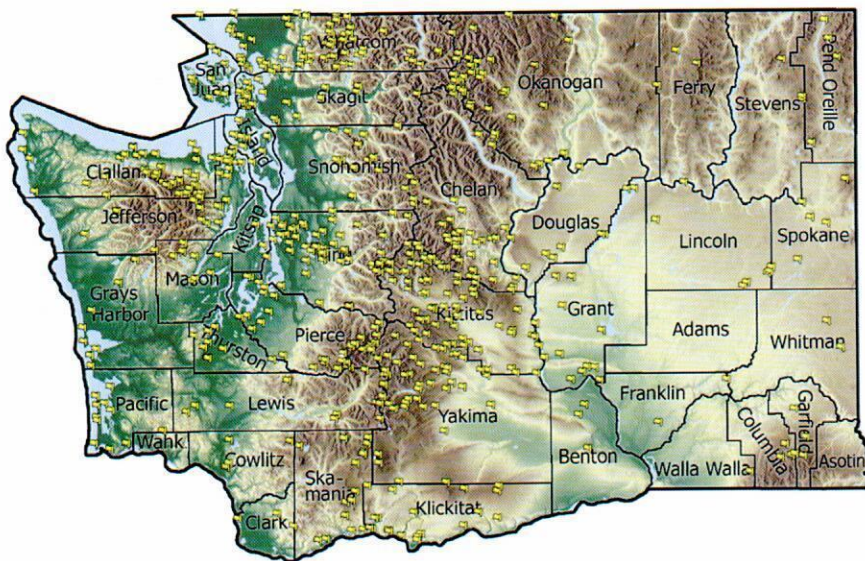


Don Knoke making a plant list in a shrub-steppe community along the Umptanum Road on the way to Wenas. PHOTO: ELLEN KUHLMANN

on what is likely to be found. With revisits throughout the growing season and in different years, a list puts flesh on the bones of a place. Consulting a number of lists from different locations gives insight into species distribution and habitat preferences.

Early plant lists were on paper only, handwritten or typed, and were scattered among members. One early effort to create a comprehensive list was made by members of the Koma

Kulshan Chapter and, later, the Salal Chapter to catalog species in Deception Pass State Park and Washington Park in Anacortes. In the late 1970s Dr. Ron Taylor made an initial list of plants in the Pass Island area of Deception Pass State Park, and in 1987 this list was expanded to include both parks. Al Hanners, Marie Hitchman, and Ann Whitmeyer led the initial effort. Through the years, many others contributed to this list, including Joe Arnett, Elroy Burnett, Art Kermoade, and Harold Mitchell. By 2000, after many iterations, the combined Deception Pass and Washington Park list was 13 pages long with contributions from 23 persons.



Map of Washington showing the more than 700 locations for which a plant list is available on the WNPS website. GRAPHIC: JOHN BASSETT AND BEN LEGLER

A Personal Take on Plant Lists

by Fred Weinmann, Olympic Peninsula Chapter
Cochair

WNPS members have compiled lists of plant species for over 700 different sites across the state, but there are hundreds of other hiking destinations for which a list has not been reported on the WNPS website. Many popular sites are visited more than once per year. In 40 years it adds up! At over 250 species, the list for the Mount Townsend trail includes more species than any other location on the Olympic Peninsula. Coincidentally, the society's first field trip in 1976 was to the Olympic Peninsula in search of the giant golden chinquapin, *Chrysopsis chrysophylla*, with a second day planned to botanize the Mount Townsend trail.

Our plant species lists are not intended to be unassailable academic treatises. They may include outdated nomenclature, they are not expected to be absolutely complete for the area, and some species may be misidentified. For example, I led a field trip to Olallie Meadows near Snoqualmie Pass each year for seven years always at approximately the same time each year. We never failed to find at least one new species in each successive year. Also, we learned after four years that we had misidentified a rare species that we had seen every year.

The number of lists proliferated over time and began to be gathered by chapters. For example, Jim Duemmel used to bring a binder of plant lists to Koma Kulshan chapter meetings, and Sarah Cooke of the Central Puget Sound chapter kept a box of plant lists in her home. For five cents a page she would copy and mail lists to requestors. Sarah's box of lists eventually migrated to the WNPS office.

The idea to put the lists on the WNPS website so they would be accessible to everyone came up in the early 2000s, with many opining that it would be good to have them online. Catherine was looking for someone to take on the job of converting the lists from paper to digital form, and in 2002 Don Knoke volunteered.

From late 2002 through the winter of 2003, Don set up a database in Microsoft Works, a precursor to Microsoft Office. To avoid having to retype the plant names for each list, he made a comprehensive species list of all the taxa in Washington State. For each plant list he could then simply

check those species that were present, sort the database, and export the list to Microsoft Word. He standardized the plant names to conform to the 1973 edition of Hitchcock, created the familiar three-column format, and typed the headers.

Don did all the work himself, including figuring out how to use the computer programs, quite a feat at age 83. His wife, Ruth, once called the project "a godsend" in helping keep Don busy during the long winter months. In 2008, Don's son Stu helped him convert the database from Works to Microsoft Excel, and it was only in 2012 that several Excel files were combined into one master Excel file for all WNPS plant lists.

The initial data entry, formatting, and list upload was a mammoth task of time and dedication. The first lists became available on the WNPS website in the spring of 2003. After the existing lists were completely converted, Don would update or create about 50 plant lists every winter until illness struck in the spring of 2014.

This set of online plant lists is unique among native plant societies in the western United States. Only the California Native Plant Society has something similar, and their lists are not as specific, being organized by habitat and areas of the state. Our plant lists represent the collective efforts of WNPS members over the past 40 years and is arguably our most significant contribution to Washington native plant education and conservation.

Since Don's passing, WNPS board member Don Schaechtel has been working on the next iteration of this key WNPS resource. If you'd like to be part of the next stage in the story of WNPS plant lists, contact Don at don.safety@nwi.net.

Ellen Kuhlmann is an ecologist whose field notebooks are filled with plant lists in their most basic form. She has worked for the US Forest Service and Rare Care and is currently an analyst with Western Washington University.

Ed

Aquatics Plants Workshop: August 23 and 24

Sponsors: WNPS, University of Washington
Herbarium, Burke Museum

Location: University of Washington, Seattle; field trips
in Seattle area

Instructor: Peter Zika, research associate, University of
Washington Herbarium

Cost: \$175, WNPS and Burke Museum members;
\$200, others

Details: www.wnps.org

Douglasia: Looking Back 40 Years

by Kathy Murray, Editorial Board Chair

WNPS was barely six months old when its initial newsletter was mailed to its first (roughly 100) members. It was titled simply *NEWSLETTER WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY* (see page 23). This six-page issue was produced by typewriter and photocopied. No editor was listed (although Brian Mulligan was the editor from 1976 through 1981). The return address was the University of Washington's Botany Department.

Among the topics covered were "Where We Are and How We Got There," a report of the first membership meeting, and the five objectives of the society: educational field trips, inventorying "rare and endangered, or otherwise unusual plants throughout the state," "taking action to save endangered areas through publicity, persuasion or on occasion legal action," providing "expert testimony to government bodies, especially in land use planning on issues concerning the survival of native plants," and establishing local chapters.

Two summer field trips were announced, one to stalk the elusive giant golden chinquapin (*Chrysolepis chrysophylla*) in the Hamma Hamma River and Jorsted Creek areas on the west side of the state, and one in eastern Washington's Methow Valley.

There was also a contest to name the newsletter. Possibilities were *The Kinnikinnik*, *Douglasia*, and *The Washington Botanist*. Members were invited to mail their ideas to Art Kruckeberg (who had suggested *Douglasia* although that wasn't mentioned.) Three to five finalists were to be identified by a committee and voted on by all WNPS members. The winner was to receive a copy of Hitchcock and Cronquist's *Flora of the Pacific Northwest*. It's unclear whether the contest happened or whether the book was awarded since there was a note in a 1977 issue that the editor had decided to adopt the name *Douglasia*.

For the past 40 years, *Douglasia* has been published four times a year, sometimes with several issues combined. Until 1983, the publication was photocopied and stapled. Then it appeared with a separate gray cover. For one volume, the covers were various pastel shades, including green, a color that was mostly used from the mid-1990s until recently. This issue marks the beginning of a new era for *Douglasia*—with color throughout and a redesigned cover with a gorgeous color photo.

Douglasia Editors

Brian Mulligan, 1976–1981
Dan Guthrie, 1981–1982
Art Kruckeberg, 1982–1992
Judy Pottmeyer, 1992–1994
Karen Hinman, 1994–1999
Richard Robohm, 1999–2001
Daniel Jones, 2001–2003

Douglasia Editors and Layout Editors

Karen Gatrell and Barb Rowan, 2003–2005
Karen Gatrell and Kim Galimanis, 2005–2007
Cindy Spurgeon and Sonja Nelson, 2008–2011
Jeanne Ponzetti and Sonja Nelson, 2011–2015
Mary Johnson and Sonja Nelson, 2015–present

Since 1999, *Douglasia* has been overseen by an editorial board. The first board had just four members: Art Kruckeberg, Richard Robohm, and Karen Hinman (all had been editors), plus Debra Salstrom. At present, the WNPS Editorial Board has eight members (plus staff) who contribute content for each issue, identify potential authors and topics, and aim to have something of interest for all WNPS members. Recurring subjects are botanical walks, basic botany, native plant gardening, ethnobotany, conservation, invasive weeds, rare plants, and book reviews. The winter 2014 issue, a single-topic issue devoted to fire ecology, was coordinated by board member Ellen Kuhlmann. Joe Arnett, another long-time member, will be the guest editor of the winter 2016 issue, which will focus on rare plants. This special WNPS 40th anniversary issue was the brainchild of editorial board member David Giblin, who regularly writes about wildflower destinations and technology innovations in the plant world (for example, an app for rare plants).

The WNPS Editorial Board also oversees WNPS Occasional Papers, single-issue publications on botanical subjects. To date, nine Occasional Papers volumes have been published and seven remain available. See the list of Occasional Papers on page 22.

For most of its history, *Douglasia* was an all-volunteer publication. In 2003, the editor and layout editor began receiving small stipends. Having a professional staff produce each issue assures timely publication and facilitates working with a printer.

While looking through past issues of *Douglasia*, I was struck by the quantity of interesting material that has been published over the past 40 years and how timely it remains. Indeed, the hallmark of the publication has been the quality and archival value of the articles. To enable access to this wealth of information, later this year older issues of *Douglasia* will begin to be posted as low-resolution PDF files on the WNPS website.

Forty years ago, those putting the first *Douglasia* together could not have dreamed of the technological changes that were just ahead. While WNPS was an early adapter of web technology and created a blog four years ago (*Botanical*

Rambles edited by editorial board member Sarah Gage), *Douglasia* remains in a paper form. It is easy to read and to keep for reference but not the best way to convey timely information. Publication and distribution of *Douglasia* is costly. We know some members would like an online newsletter that is readable on a range of devices from desktop computers to smartphones; however, at the moment, WNPS lacks the requisite web tools to facilitate such a transition. The Editorial Board remains committed to publishing timely, interesting, and archival material in *Douglasia* and welcomes member input on publishing options including frequency and content of paper and electronic publications.



WNPS Occasional Papers

Between 1983 and 2009, WNPS published nine Occasional Papers. Of these, seven can be ordered through the WNPS Office or online at: www.wnps.org/publications/o-p.html.

Steppe by Step: Understanding Priest Rapids Plants. Joy D. Mastrogriuseppe and Steven J. Gill. 1983:Vol. 1, 68 pp. Not available.

Plant Life of the North Cascades: Lake Chelan–Sawtooth Ridge, Stehekin Valley, and Glacier Peak. Ed Alverson, Joseph Arnett, Ronald J. Taylor (editor), Harold St. John, and George Douglas. 1986:Vol. 2, 96 pp. \$10.

Plant Life of Washington State: Big Beaver Valley and the Kettle Range. Ronald Vanbianchi, Steven J. Wagstaff, Carol R. Annable, and Paul M. Peterson. 1988:Vol. 3, 96 pp. \$10.

Plant Life of Washington State: Dungeness Spit, Willapa Hills, and Lower Columbia River. Thomas N. Kaye and Cathy L. Maxwell. 1991:Vol. 4, 76 pp. Not available.

Plant Life of Washington Territory: Northern Pacific Railroad Survey, Botanical Report, 1853–1861. James Graham Cooper, Nelsa M. Buckingham, Alice Racer Anderson (editor). 1994:Vol. 5, 114 pp plus map. \$10.

Vegetation Studies Funded by the Washington Native Plant Society (22 articles). Ronald J. Taylor and Richy J. Harrod, editors. 1998:Vol. 6, 98 pp. \$10.

Untitled issue with eight articles—*A Review of Impacts of Non-native Invasive Species; A Biophysical and Floristic Description of the Northern Half of Stevens and Ferry Counties, Washington* (by Sarah Reichard and Jean Wood); *Characteristics and Dispersal of Cypripedium fasciculatum (Orchidaceae) Seeds* (by Richy J. Harrod and Richard L. Everett); *Brittle Prickly-Pear Cactus (Opuntia fragilis) in the San Juan Islands and Puget Sound Region of Washington State* (by Terry Domico); *Evaluation of the Impacts of Grazing on Vernal Pool Plant Community Structure* (by Wendy Brown); *Unsuccessful Pollination Experiments with Hackelia venusta* (by Richy J. Harrod); *Evaluation of the Conservation Status and Effects of Rock Climbing on Silene seelyi* (by Devin Malkin); *Icicle Road Volunteer Handpull Knapweed Report* (by Dottie Knecht and Joan Frazee). Edited by Richy J. Harrod. 1999:Vol. 7, 54 pp. \$10.

A Centenary Survey of Plant Life in Washington State: Retracing the 1892 Collecting Trips of Louis F. Henderson. Sarah Gage and Sharon Rodman. 2006:Vol. 8, 92 pp plus 34 pp of appendices including plant lists and localities. \$10.

Lichens of South Lopez Island: San Juan County, Washington State. Fred M. Rhoades. 2009:Vol. 9, 60 pp (in color). \$15.

JUN 11 1976

N E W S L E T T E R

WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

Vol. 1, No. 1 Summer 1976

Department of Botany
University of Washington
Seattle, Wa 98195



WHERE WE ARE AND HOW WE GOT THERE

The new organization, WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, is barely five months old and yet has come a good way since its February beginnings. There are now over 100 paid members from all over the state--students, amateurs, professional botanists and institutions, forming a broad spectrum of concern for our native flora. Since our beginnings early this year, a Steering Committee consisting of Ted Anderson (Walla Walla), Joan Canfield (Seattle), Melinda Denton (Seattle), Betty Fitzgerald (Olympia), Judy Kawasaki, (Seattle), Art Kruckeberg (Seattle), Dennis Jablonski (Randle), Margaret and Joe Miller (Bellevue), Brian Mulligan (Kirkland), Marilyn Perks (Seattle), and Harold Wood (Seattle) has met to further the well-being of the organization. By-laws for the organization have been drafted, discussed and revised for eventual ratification. They were accepted by the membership at our first membership meeting last month. The first program meeting (April 23) was very well attended with nearly a hundred in the audience to listen to Professor Ron Taylor of Western Washington State College describe a floral transect across the state. His richly illustrated lecture was a most appropriate beginning for the Society: an enjoyable educational experience. The Steering Committee also organized the Society's first field trip led by Dr. Melinda Denton (U.W.). On Saturday, May 1, a large

turn-out enjoyed perfect weather and a rich floral display in the Cle Elum area and at Vantage on the Columbia River.

OBJECTIVES OF WNPS

It is timely to restate some of the objectives of the WASHINGTON NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, especially as some of us will be out among the native plants this summer:

1. Sponsoring of field trips which serve the dual purpose of providing an educational outing as well as familiarizing members with unusual plants in critical areas around the state.
2. Conducting inventories of rare and endangered, or otherwise unusual plants throughout the state.
3. Taking action to save endangered areas through publicity, persuasion or on occasion legal action.
4. Providing expert testimony to government bodies, especially in land use planning on issues concerning the survival of native plants.
5. Establishment of local chapters throughout the state to further all of the above objectives

The cover page of the first WNPS newsletter, which became *Douglasia* in 1977. The complete six-page issue can be seen on the WNPS website: www.wnps.org/include/pages/files/pdfs/firstissueofdouglasia.pdf



Join the Washington Native Plant Society

Membership in WNPS entitles you to:

- A subscription to *Douglasia*
- A special price on Occasional Papers
- A chapter newsletter with local news and information
- Field trips to see wildflowers and unusual plant communities
- Classes by expert botanists
- Annual study weekends
- Conservation and restoration activities
- The fellowship of plant lovers from all over Washington State

Membership Category (Includes one chapter affiliation)

- ___ \$35 Individual Membership
- ___ \$45 Family Membership
- ___ \$50 WNPS Friend
- ___ \$65 Organization
- ___ \$100 WNPS Special Friend
- ___ \$500 WNPS Best Friend
- ___ \$1,000 WNPS Sustaining Member
- ___ \$5,000 WNPS Patron
- ___ \$20 Student (Institution _____)
- ___ \$20 Budget
- ___ \$7 each additional chapter
- ___ Contribution \$ _____

For more information visit: [//www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org). Or send this form with your name, address, e-mail, chapter affiliation, and payment to:

WNPS
6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E
Seattle, WA 98115

Please make checks payable to WNPS.

Ways to Give to WNPS

Did you know that contributions fund nearly a third of our operations—even more than dues? Anyone can visit wnps.org and link from our home page by using the Donate Now button on our Contributions webpage.

Work Place Matching Gifts are accepted. Thank you for considering giving through your workplace and the added value of corporate match. Consider the following ways to support WNPS programs.

Workplace Giving: Federal and State Employees and Retirees. Federal and state employees and retirees can sign up during open enrollment periods for payroll donations that will begin the next year. WNPS's designated number for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is 69374; for the Combined Fund Drive (CFD) for state employees, 0315051.

Give Big. An online giving campaign supported and matched by The Seattle Foundation. The 2016 event takes place on May 3. Be sure to consider WNPS in this annual campaign.

Fred Meyer. Anyone, WNPS member or nonmember, can link their Fred Meyer Shoppers Reward Card online by choosing Washington Native Plant Society or the WNPS nonprofit number 94887. To do this, go to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards.

Amazon Smile Foundation. Shopping on Amazon? Your purchasing dollar can support WNPS. Sign up at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchase to the WNPS.

WNPS Education and Research Grants

Each year WNPS offers grants for projects that educate the public about native plants and for research in such areas as the biology of native species, conservation, and plant inventories of little-studied areas.

Application deadlines for education grants are May 15 and November 15 of each year. For more information, see:

www.wnps.org/education/education_grant.html

The deadline for applying for research grants is January 15 of each year. More information is available at:

www.wnps.org/research/research.html

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Ann Weinmann
Fred Weinmann

*WNPS Fellow is the highest honor given to a member by our society. This title is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to the understanding and/or preservation of Washington's flora, or to the success of WNPS.

** Deceased

Douglasia

c/o Washington Native Plant Society

6310 NE 74th Street, Suite 215E

Seattle, WA 98115



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